



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 0 967 766 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
29.01.2003 Bulletin 2003/05

(51) Int Cl.7: H04L 29/06, H04L 12/28,
G05B 19/042

(43) Date of publication A2:
29.12.1999 Bulletin 1999/52

(21) Application number: 99304991.5

(22) Date of filing: 24.06.1999

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE

Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: 24.06.1998 US 104039

(71) Applicant: Netbrowser Communications
San Ramon, California 94583 (US)

(72) Inventors:

- Hunter, Robert R.
California 94506 (US)
- Vogt, David A.
San Leandro, California 94579 (US)
- Cheong, Leslie
San Jose, California 95126 (US)

(74) Representative: Kensett, John Hinton
Saunders & Doleymore,
9 Rickmansworth Road
Watford, Hertfordshire WD18 0JU (GB)

(54) Multi-capability facilities monitoring and control intranet for facilities management system

(57) A facilities monitoring and control intranet is defined by two separate and independent communication links, one for supporting communication between facilities infrastructure equipment and a monitoring device, and one for supporting communication between the monitoring device in a system server in a server/client architecture. A communication link between facilities equipment and their associated client monitor is adapted to conform to each infrastructure device's vendor defined communication interface and supports communication between a facilities device and its client monitor in the infrastructure device's native language protocol. One or more client devices are coupled to a system server through a network link, with the network adapted to support TCP/IP packet-based data transmission protocols. The system server provides initial set-up parameters and continuing operating instructions to each client device over the network link. Subsequently, client devices carry out normal monitoring functions locally, over their local communication link. Intervention by the system server is no longer required unless and until a client device determines that one of its supported pieces of infrastructure equipment is functioning outside of its normal operating parameters. The System server gives the appropriate control information to the client which communicates the control code to the out-of-parameter device in its native language protocol. The system then reverts to its local configuration, with the client device only communicating with the system server on a period-

ic, keep-alive packet basis.

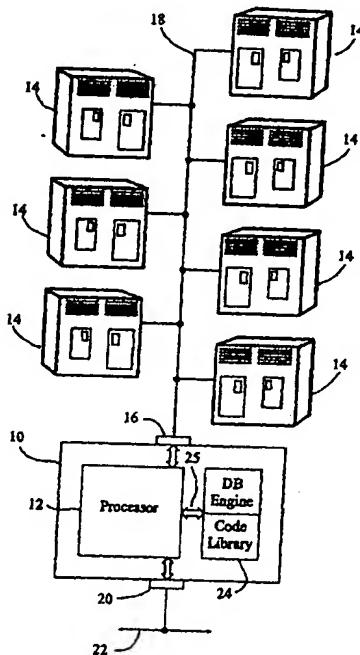


FIG. 1



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 4991

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
X	EP 0 825 506 A (FOXBORO CORP) 25 February 1998 (1998-02-25) * page 1, column 2, line 6 - line 8 * * page 3, column 3, line 40 - line 44 * * page 3, column 3, line 46 - line 55 * * page 3, column 4, line 21 - line 25 * * page 3, column 4, line 41 - line 45 * * page 5, column 8, line 38 - line 55 * * page 5, column 8, line 54 - line 56 * * page 6, column 9, line 12 - line 16 * * page 6, column 10, line 26 - line 30 * * claims 5,9 * * figure 1 *	1-3,5, 7-10,12	H04L29/06 H04L12/28 G05B19/042
A	---	1-12	
A	US 5 682 329 A (SEEM JOHN ET AL) 28 October 1997 (1997-10-28) * page 2, column 4, line 51 - line 63 * * figure 1 *	2,3	

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H04L G05B G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	10 December 2002	Hes, R	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
EPO FORM 1503/02 (PACON) 1			

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 99 30 4991

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

10-12-2002

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0825506	A	25-02-1998	EP	0825506 A2		25-02-1998
US 5682329	A	28-10-1997	US	5555195 A		10-09-1996

EPO FORM P0455
For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82